

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058275

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (AVEROFF, EVANGELOS), GR

SUBJECT: TURKISH INQUIRY RE AVEROFF VISIT

1. TURKISH EMBASSY OFFICER PELIT CALLED ON DEPARTMENT OFFICER MARCH 6 TO SEEK INFORMATION ON CURRENT VISIT OF GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF TO WASHINGTON. PELIT WAS TOLD THAT AVEROFF HAD SCHEDULED UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES SEVERAL MONTHS BACK FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION OF HIS BOOK, BY AXE AND FIRE. WHEN THE SECRETARY WAS IN ATHENS IN LATE JANUARY, HE HAD OFFERED TO HOST A SMALL DINNER FOR AVEROFF IF HE CAME TO WASHINGTON.

2. IN RESPONSE TO PELIT QUESTION ABOUT OTHER AVEROFF ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON, DEPTOFF SAID AN APPOINTMENT ON CONFIDENTIAL

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MARCH 7 HAD BEEN ARRANGED WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT AT THE DEFENSE MINISTER'S INITIATIVE. ADDITIONALLY, WE WERE AWARE THAT SEN. EAGLETON WAS HOSTING A LUNCH FOR AVEROFF ON MARCH 7, THAT HE WAS MEETING WITH HIRC MEMBERS AND EDITORS OF WASHINGTON POST AND STAR, AND GREEK AMBASSADOR WAS GIVING RECEPTION. AVEROFF WOULD NOT VISIT DOD. DEPTOFF NOTED THAT THE BULK OF AVEROFF'S TIME DURING HIS US VISIT

WAS BEING DEVOTED TO THE PROMOTION OF THE BOOK.

3. PELIT ASKED WHETHER AVEROFF WOULD BE DISCUSSING TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE SECRETARY. DEPTOFF SAID THAT HE ASSUMED THERE WOULD BE A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF GLOBAL AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES AT THE SECRETARY'S DINNER, BUT THAT THE OCCASION WOULD NOT LEND ITSELF TO DETAILED SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. THERE WOULD BE NO PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND AVEROFF.

4. IN RESPONSE PELIT QUESTION ABOUT STATUS OF THE GREEK DCA, DEPTOFF SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN SITUATION.

5. FYI. GUESTS AT SECRETARY'S MARCH 6 DINNER INCLUDED SEN. SARBANES, CONG. ZABLOCKI AND CONG. BRADEMAS, DOD/ISA ASSISTANT SECRETARY MCGIFFERT, FORMER AMBASSADOR KUBISCH AND DEPT OFFICIALS. AS ANTICIPATED DISCUSSION WAS GENERAL IN NATURE COVERING DEVELOPMENTS IN GREECE, EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, NATO, AND YUGOSLAVIA. VANCE

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